

our streets and the amount of trash that ends up in our landfills, it also dramatically reduces the amount of global warming pollution that ends up in our atmosphere. If all of the 58 billion aluminum cans that are thrown away every year in the United States were recycled, it would cut the emissions of heat-trapping carbon pollution by nearly 6 million tons—the equivalent of the pollution from more than one million cars. Cans made from recycled aluminum use 95 percent less energy than cans manufactured with new materials.

In addition, plastic water and juice bottles have become increasingly prevalent since many state bottle bills were initially adopted. While less than half of the aluminum cans sold every year are recycled, an astounding 80 percent of the 60 billion plastic bottles sold each year are not recycled. Including plastic bottles in a national bottle bill would lead to significant savings in energy and oil consumption. One ton of recycled plastic saves 5,774 kWh (kilowatt hours) of electricity and 685 gallons of oil.

I am proud to introduce this important bill today on America Recycles Day. Passing this bill would allow Congress to send the nation a global warming message in a bottle. We can still quench our thirst while reducing our thirst for energy. And we can have carbon dioxide in our fizzy drinks, while cutting down on heat-trapping carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I regrettably missed rollcall vote No. 1093 on November 14, 2007. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: rollcall No. 1093: "yes."

PROTECT OUR CHILDREN ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for H.R. 3845, the PROTECT (Providing Resources Officers and Technology to Eradicate Cyber Threats) Act. This legislation takes a strong stand against the exploitation of our children on the Internet.

H.R. 3845 will authorize the largest increase ever in funding for state and local law enforcement agencies to investigate child exploitation, through the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task force program.

Expanding the ICAC program will build state and local capacity and also modernize the way U.S. law enforcement at every level investigate crimes against children.

Current technologies have assisted local law enforcement to identify over 500,000 individuals trafficking child pornography. Without the necessary resources, however, local law enforcement officials have only been able to investigate 2 percent of these cases.

The PROTECT Act would provide our law enforcement officials the tools and resources to investigate and prosecute these offenders.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the PROTECT Act to ensure the safety of our Nation's children.

ON THE PRIVILEGED RESOLUTION TO IMPEACH VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD B. CHENEY

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, last week, the House considered a privileged resolution, offered by the gentleman from Ohio, Mr. Kucinich, to impeach the Vice President. I supported an effort to refer that measure to committee where it can get the attention it deserves.

Having served on the House Armed Services Committee and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, I have repeatedly condemned how the administration presented evidence to Congress and the American public to justify military action against Iraq. In October 2002, I voted against the resolution authorizing the use of force against Iraq in part because of concerns about the intelligence we were given. It is Congress's responsibility to investigate the administration's claims and actions, not only to understand to what extent the White House cherry-picked evidence to support a course of action, but also to prevent intelligence from being manipulated by policymakers in the future. Congress has held numerous hearings into these complex questions, and we will continue to be aggressive in fulfilling our oversight duties.

Frustration with the administration among the American public has become palpable, with some calling for the impeachment of senior elected officials. While I share the deep dissatisfaction that people have with the way our Nation is being led, we must be extremely cautious about how best to chart a new course. Impeachment is one of the strongest constitutional powers granted to Congress, and its exercise must be governed by the laws of this Nation and the rules of this House. While I respect the intentions of the gentleman from Ohio in offering his resolution, I believe that it would be premature for the Members of the House to vote on a matter of such gravity without the benefit of hearings and with imperfect information. For that reason, I supported its referral to committee.

When the American people elected a Democratic majority last November, we promised to lead the country in a new direction. We saw how the Nation's priorities had been ignored for 12 years under Republican rule in Congress, and we vowed to promote change. In the last 11 months, we have made tremendous progress—increasing the minimum wage, implementing the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission, restoring fiscal accountability to the federal budget, expanding access to higher education, investing in clean and renewable energy, and much, much more. We built on those successes just last week, when we passed a middle-class tax relief package that would prevent 23 million Americans from being harmed by the alternative minimum tax,

as well as an appropriations bill that would make long overdue investments in health care, medical research, education programs and veterans health care. Also, for the first time, the Bush administration is not getting a free pass from a rubber stamp Congress. We have aggressively investigated the activities of the executive branch, and through our oversight efforts, we have held the administration accountable for a number of its failures.

The will of the American people had been ignored for far too long, but this Congress has promised to address our Nation's most urgent needs. I will keep working to ensure that we pursue policies that reflect the priorities of all Americans so that we can put our country on the right path once again.

RECOGNIZING STEVE SCHAIKER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Steve Schaike for reaching an important milestone as a public servant to the people of Ames, Iowa.

For the past 25 years, Steve has served as Ames City Manager. After receiving his master's degree in public administration at the University of Indiana's School of Public and Environmental Affairs, he became the assistant to the Ames City Manager in 1979, taking over the city manager position in 1982.

Steve values citizens' opinions, thriving on direct contact and open accessibility with residents to aid in making decisions for the betterment of the community. He also works to foster a positive relationship with city employees, the city council, the Chamber of Commerce, and Iowa State University to bring the Ames community together. While serving as city manager, Steve has facilitated many successful projects to improve the lives of citizens including City Hall, CyRide transportation, and the new aquatic center.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress will join me in commending Steve Schaike for his leadership and service to Ames. I consider it an honor to represent him in the United States Congress and I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO RECIPIENTS OF THE OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC. MU NU CHAPTER'S ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP AWARD AND R.W. SNOWDEN SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the recipients of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Mu Nu Chapter's Academic Leadership Award and R.W. Snowden Scholarship Award. On Wednesday, November 14, 2007, the recipients of these awards were acknowledged for their outstanding achievements at an Omega Psi Phi Fraternity awards reception in Silver Spring, Maryland.